## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EB-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /026 W

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R 051117Z AUG 77 FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI TO USDA WASHDC INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5211 AMEMBASSY DACCA AMCONSUL BOMBAY

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 11057

FROM AGATT FOR USDA PASS FAS GRAIN AND FEED DIV. AND PARKER, ERS.
DACCA FOR FEJFAR
BOMBAY FOR CLENDENEN

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAGR, IN

SUBJECT: SOUTHWEST MONSOON

REF: NEW DELHI 10736

1. MONSSON ACTIVITY SLACKENED SIGNIFICANTLY DURING THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 3. THE NUMBER OF WEATHER ZONES RECEIVING NORMAL OR ABOVE NORMAL RAINFALL DECLINED TO 13 FROM 25, OUT OF A TOTAL OF 35. THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITY WAS MAINLY CONCENTRATED IN RAJASTHAN, PUNJAB, HARYANA, GANGETIC PLAINS, ASSAM, ORISSA, AND EASTERN GUJARAT. RAINFALL OVER THE REST OF THE COUNTRY WAS DEFICIENT TO SCANTY RANGING FROM 31 PERCNT IN TAMIL NADU TO 96 PERCENT IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR (BELOW NORMAL).

2. CUMULATIVE RAINFALL FROM JUNE 1 TO AUGUST 3, 1977 WAS NORMAL OR ABOVE NORMAL IN BAY ISLANDS, ASSAM AND MEGHALAYA, SOUTHERN PARTS OF WEST BENGAL, ORISSA, BIHAR, UTTAR PRADESH, HARYAN, PUNJAB, HIMACHAL PRADESH, JAMMU AND KASHMIR, UNCLASSIFIED

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RAJASTHAN, MADHYA PRADESH, GUJARAT, MAHARASHTRA (EXCLUDING SOUTHEAST AREAS), ANDHRA PRADESH (BARRING NORTHWEST AREAS), TAMIL NADU, KARNATAKA, KERALA AND LAKSHADWEEP. RAINFALL OVER BALANCE OF THE COUNTRY WAS BELOW NORMAL RANJING FROM 20 PERCENT IN NORTHWEST ANDHRA PRADESH TO 42 PERCENT IN NAGALAND, MANIPUR, MIZORAM, AND TRIPURA. THE ABOVE WEATHER ZONES WHICH RECEIVED NORMAL OR ABOVE NORMAL RAINFALL ACCOUNTED FOR

APPROXIMATELY 94 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL KHARIF CEREAL PRODUCTION (COMPARED TO 68 PERCENT IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1976) USING AS A BASE THE DISTRIBUTION OF KHARIF PRODUCTION DURING 1970-71.

- 3. WITH MORE THAN NORMAL PRECIPITATION, FLOOD WATERS HAVE INUNDATED VAST AREAS OF HARYANA, RAJASHTN, WEST BENGAL ORISSA, GUJARAT, AND BIHAR, BUT NO MAJOR CROP DAMAGE HAS BEEN REPORTED AS YET.
- 4. OVERALL PERFORMANCE OF THE MONSOON DURING THE CURRENT SEASON HAS PROVIDED THE BASIS FOR GREATER FOODGRAIN PRODUCTION THAN THAT ACHIEVED LAST SUMMER. HOWEVER, TIMELY AND ADEQUATE RAINFALL DURING THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON IS NEEDED TO INSURE SUCH PERFORMANCE.GOHEEN

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